of North American *Cuscuta pentagona* Engelmann in Japan, where it has thus far established in such habitats as river beds and banks. Assuming from the fact that this weed is always forming a large, rather vigorously expanding community (Figs. 1 & 2), it seems possible that it will eventually become a noxious naturalized element in Japan. The seeds of this weedy parasite have apparently entered mixed with imported soy beans and other grains such as wheat.

○A new variety of *Aconitum laciniatum* from Nepal (*Aconitum* of the Himalaya III*) (L. A. Lauener) L. A. ラウエナー： ネパール産トリカブトの一新変種

Aconitum laciniatum (Brühl) Stapf var. **fractiflexum** Lauener, var. nov.

A typo caulibus fractiflexis inflorescentiis compactioribus petalis staminibusque glabris nec pilosis differt.

E. NEPAL. Chintapu, 27°06′ N, 87°55′ E, 2800 m, forêt, lande, fl. bleu sombre, 1.50 m, 29 ix 1971, *Dobremez* 1250 (holo. BM).

The forthcoming publication of the "Enumeration of Flowering Plants of Nepal" makes it desirable for the above specimen to be named. It was originally determined as *A. spicatum*, probably in view of its compact inflorescence, but it has a closer affinity with *A. laciniatum*.

Although Stapf described the stem of *A. laciniatum* as erect, stiff or flexuous, the stem of the Dobremez specimen is noticeably zig-zag, a quite common feature in *Aconitum*. The leaves are laciniate as in the species but the teeth of the laciniae are more acuminate giving the leaf an appearance similar to that of *A. potaninii* Kom. from Szechuan. The inflorescence of var. *fractiflexum* is more compact and has a spreading indumentum instead of the curved adpressed hairs of the species. The petals and stamens are glabrous, as in *Stainton* 6577 which has been referred to *A. laciniatum* (see Notes R. B. G. Edinb. **32**, 413 : 1973), but the summation of all the differences of the specimen collected by Dobremez justifies some taxonomic distinction from the typical species and it is therefore given varietal recognition. (Roy. Bot. Gard., Edinburgh, Scotland)

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* Notes R. B. G. Edinb. **25** : 1–30 (1963) ; op. cit. **26** : 1–10 (1964), **32** : 411–414 (1973).